MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*) : Who was the officer concerned who said this ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : The Principal of the College.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*) : But what was the nature of the accommodation that was required for the Honors Class in Mathematics ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : I rise to a point of order as to whether it arises from this. The question is about Geology.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : It does not arise.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*) : Will not small rooms available in the College itself be sufficient ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : The Principal has reported that the existing rooms in the College will not be available for that purpose.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*) : Is it the intention of the Principal that there should be very large class rooms for teaching Geology ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : For the classes to be opened, certain minimum requirements are necessary and the minimum was said to be six rooms, *i. e.*, one lecture room, one for the museum, a microscope room, a room for the draftsmen, a room for the members of the teaching staff and a room for the library. These are the six rooms that are required.

Geology Chair in His Highness the Maha Raja's College of Science.

226. **MR. R. PADMANABHAN** (*Nominated*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they had a few years ago expressed their intention to open a Geology chair in H. H. the Maha Raja's College of Science; and

(*b*) if so, why it was not carried into effect ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) Yes, in February 1925.

(*b*) The Member is referred to the answer to question No. 225.

Enhancement of price of land through speculation.

227. **MR. G. RAMAN MENON** (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : (*a*) Are the Government aware that the price of land for the cultivation of ordinary food crops and other necessary purposes in the State has been abnormally enhanced in recent years owing to the fact that large areas of *puduval* lands in all convenient regions have been acquired from the Government by rich or influential persons for purposes of speculation and not for early utilisation or productive purposes ?

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[Mr. G. Raman Menon.]

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to take the necessary steps for reserving power to the Government to re-acquire these *puduval* lands at the original prices, if they are not satisfactorily utilised within five years from the time of due notice to the holders of the lands concerned?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The price of land may have increased in recent years; but Government are not aware that it is due to the cause suggested by the Member.

(*b*) The attention of the Member is invited to paragraph 6 of the Dewan's address to the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly in 1926. The matter is engaging the attention of Government. The Member's suggestion is noted for consideration.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Does not paragraph 6 of the Dewan's address to the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly refer to the matter of imposing a penalty on non-cultivation?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The paragraph is there. Does the member want me to read the paragraph?

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): I said it refers to the imposition of a penalty on non-cultivation.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Will not that refer to lands assigned in the past as well?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): This is the sentence. "Statistics of such uncultivated lands will show whether the abuse is so great as to warrant legislation to penalise non-cultivation."

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): The question of imposing a penalty on non-cultivation will refer not only to the lands to be assigned in future but also to the lands assigned in the past.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): That will have to be considered when statistics are obtained and when a Bill is drafted *i. e.*, as to whether it should be applied to past grants also or to future grants only.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): I want to draw the attention of the Government to that. Now the suggestion made in my question refers only to the lands to be assigned in future.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Under the existing Regulation and rules it is doubtful whether Government can take immediate action in the matter.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): What I want to point out is that there is a difference in the suggestion made in this question and that referred to in the Dewan's address.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): This quesion is engaging the attention of Government and statistics are being called for. When they are collected the question will be examined as a whole. Then the Government will, consider the Member's suggestion also.

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